

OFFICE OF THE HEADMASTER

November 7, 2016

Dear McDonogh Community,

It is with heavy hearts that we share distressing news from the past that was just disclosed to us. As some of you may know, in 1985 an alumnus pressed charges against former faculty member Robert E. Creed for sexually abusing him while he attended McDonogh in the early 1980s. Mr. Creed was found guilty in 1986. Records show that he is deceased. In 1992, former faculty member Alvin J. Levy was indicted by a Baltimore County Grand Jury on sexual abuse charges brought forth by a graduate who was abused in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Mr. Levy's counsel advised the School that Mr. Levy did not intend to contest the charges. Mr. Levy died before the scheduled court date. Sadly, another student who attended McDonogh in the early 1980s has now informed the School that he, too, was sexually abused by Mr. Creed and Mr. Levy. The School has contacted the Baltimore County Department of Social Services about this recent disclosure and met with authorities from the Baltimore County Police Department.

As an institution that cares deeply about the well-being of every student, past and present, we find this new report from a survivor extremely troubling as it raises concerns that there may be others who were sexually abused while students at McDonogh. Therefore, the Board of Trustees has authorized the engagement of T&M Protection Resources, a highly qualified New York City firm with significant experience in such matters, to conduct a thorough investigation into reports of abuse by Mr. Creed and Mr. Levy as well as any other reports of abuse received during this process.

If you have been affected personally or have any information that may assist in the investigation, we encourage you to contact Laura Kirschstein, J.D., T&M Vice President of Sexual Misconduct Consulting and Investigations, at 212-916-8852 or lkirschstein@tmprotection.com. Every effort will be made to ensure the confidentiality of information received. Once the investigation is complete, we will update the School community.

McDonogh has zero tolerance for child abuse and inappropriate adult-student relationships of any kind. On a regular basis, the school reviews its policies and procedures to ensure that safeguards are in place to protect our students. In addition to thorough vetting during the hiring process, our teachers receive professional development that emphasizes student safety, child abuse, and reporting requirements. In the most recent review of our policies and procedures, we added a requirement mandating all employees and adult campus residents to complete online training with the Baltimore Child Abuse Center. Equally important, students receive age-appropriate education and guidance on issues relating to health and safety through the PK-12 curriculum. Our school counselors, Marie Allee, Ph.D. and Dan Wagner, Psy.D., are directly involved in these efforts and are always available to students, employees, and parents who may have questions or concerns.

The Administration and Board of Trustees are deeply sorry for the harm caused by Mr. Creed and Mr. Levy. It is unthinkable that these educators would cause such suffering, and we will be supportive of those who are affected by their unconscionable behavior.

We are committed to doing what is right and just for our past, present, and future students. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Britton
Headmaster



Arthur H. Adler '78
President, Board of Trustees